

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for operating a telematics unit within a mobile vehicle, the
5 method comprising:
receiving an incoming call signal, the incoming call signal including
an origin identifier;
determining an answer mode based on the origin identifier of the
incoming call signal;
10 initiating the answer mode responsive to the answer mode
determination; and
operating the telematics unit based on the initiated answer mode.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein the origin identifier is selected from
15 the group consisting of: an automatic number identifier, and a digital signature.
3. The method of claim 1, wherein determining the answer mode
comprises:
determining a first answer mode when the origin identifier is within
20 a predetermined group of origin identifiers; and
determining a second answer mode when the origin identifier is not
within the predetermined group of origin identifiers.
4. The method of claim 3, wherein operating the telematics unit based
25 on the first answer mode comprises:
directing the incoming call signal to a vehicle information controller
within the telematics unit.

5. The method of claim 4, further comprising:
connecting the incoming call signal to the vehicle information
controller within the telematics unit.

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6. The method of claim 3, wherein operating the telematics unit based
on the second answer mode comprises:

directing the incoming call signal to a user interface within the
telematics unit.

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7. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
connecting the incoming call signal to the user interface within the
telematics unit responsive to a user interface activation.

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8. The method of claim 6, further comprising:
determining the user interface is not activated; and
activating an electronic voice-mail system.

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9. A computer readable medium for operating a telematics unit within
a mobile vehicle, comprising:

computer readable code for determining an answer mode based on
an origin identifier included within an incoming call signal;

computer readable code for initiating the answer mode responsive
to the answer mode determination; and

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computer readable code for operating the telematics unit based on
the initiated answer mode.

10. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the origin identifier is selected from the group consisting of: an automatic number identifier, and a digital signature.

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11. The computer readable medium of claim 9, wherein the computer readable code for determining the answer mode comprises:

computer readable code for determining a first answer mode when the origin identifier is within a predetermined group of origin identifiers; and

10 computer readable code for determining a second answer mode when the origin identifier is not within the predetermined group of origin identifiers.

12. The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the computer readable code for operating the telematics unit based on the first answer mode comprises:

computer readable code for directing the incoming call signal to a vehicle information controller within the telematics unit.

13. The computer readable medium of claim 12, further comprising:
20 computer readable code for connecting the incoming call signal to the vehicle information controller within the telematics unit.

14. The computer readable medium of claim 11, wherein the computer readable code for operating the telematics unit based on the second answer mode comprises:

25 computer readable code for directing the incoming call signal to a user interface within the telematics unit.

15. The computer readable medium of claim 14, further comprising:
computer readable code for connecting the incoming call signal to
the user interface within the telematics unit responsive to a user interface
5 activation.

16. The computer readable medium of claim 15, further comprising:
computer readable code for determining the user interface is not
activated; and
10 computer readable code for activating an electronic voice-mail
system.

17. A system for operating a telematics unit within a mobile vehicle, the
system comprising:
15 means for receiving an incoming call signal, the incoming call signal
including an origin identifier;
means for determining an answer mode based on the origin
identifier of the incoming call signal;
means for initiating the answer mode responsive to the answer
20 mode determination; and
means for operating the telematics unit based on the initiated
answer mode.

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